

OFFICE OF THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Milwaukee County

SCOTT WALKER . COUNTY EXECUTIVE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

April 20, 2007

For more information, please contact: Rod McWilliams (414) 278-4216 Cell: (414) 235-6592

WALKER STATEMENT ON MATC TAX INCREASE PROPOSAL

MILWAUKEE – County Executive Scott Walker issued the following statement today on the proposed property tax increase by MATC that would raise the levy from \$132 million to \$144 million:

"MATC is looking at an 8.5% increase in the tax levy for the next budget. The real story is that the school is in contract negotiations with the union. A retroactive pay increase would add \$3.9 million this year and \$8.8 million next year for pay and benefits."

"Sadly, a tax increase of this size will only add to the pressure on residents and employers to leave the area for lower taxes. This is not what we want for economic development. What good is it to train people for jobs if the employers are leaving?"

###